

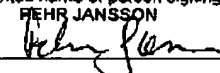
PATENT RECEIVED
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/727,174 Confirmation No. 5606
Applicant : Montgomery et al.
Filed : 11/30/2000
TC/A.U. : 2182
Examiner : Patel, Niketa I.
Docket No. : 40.0023 C1
Customer No. : 41754

JUL 15 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 15, 2004, with a period for response to expire after July 15, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.